

Dear Justice and Peace Supporter,

Travels of a Social Justice Co-ordinator

“We shall overcome because the arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice”. This is one of the quotations which forms part of the Martin Luther King Jr. Monument in Washington D.C. More than any other in the National Mall I knew I had to make time to go see Dr. King’s memorial and reflect on the legacy he left. I was there on an exchange looking at issues around migration and sadly it certainly feels like we’re a long way from justice. Long traditions of welcome and hospitality are under threat in the US like never before, and many who I met with, ranging from Dreamers (children of undocumented workers) to Congressmen fear an existential threat to this history. But even before I left the US we were learning about the treatment of the Windrush generation; ongoing for some years, but only exposed due to press involvement ahead of the Commonwealth summit. I also couldn’t help but think of the young people I met in Calais last year; we are very vocal concerning Donald Trump’s desire for a wall with Mexico, but there is condemning silence about the walls (miles and miles of additional fencing) around Calais and other ports which our taxes have been spent on; an extension of the ‘hostile environment’ policy to desperate children in northern France. One organisation we met in the US were based in a building, which also housed the local ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement) Team. Our host told us there is a “silence and nod” culture of greeting in the building with nobody wanting to discuss anything in the corridors. My personal feeling was to padlock the door to prevent the ICE team from going out ever again, especially when we learnt of the current arrangements of ‘bed quotas’; where private companies (including GEO who run Dungavel over here) are paid to keep the beds full, and will delay releasing detainees as they are paid per night by the federal government. In one of his easy essays Peter Maurin reflects on the ancient Greek custom where strangers and those in need were considered ‘Ambassadors of God’; it makes the language we hear of ‘scroungers begging’, and ‘swarms of illegal immigrants’ even more shameful.

NEWSLETTER
April / May



“Out of the mountain of despair a stone of hope”

Danny (Social Justice Co-ordinator)

(Danny’s trip to the US was featured in a recent issue of the Scottish Catholic Observer. That article can be read here : <http://www.sconews.co.uk/feature/55423/time-for-words-of-welcome/>)

Upcoming Events

Scottish Christians Against Nuclear Arms (SCANA), Pentecost Peace Witness Vigil Saturday 26th May 2018, 12 noon – 1.00 p.m. Faslane Royal Naval Base, Gareloch.

We really hope that as many of you as possible will turn out and take part in a peace witness with **Bishop William Nolan** (President of Justice and Peace Scotland), **Susan Brown** (Moderator of the Church of Scotland) and a representative of the Episcopal Church. A short annual Peace Vigil, led by the Iona Community’s Wild Goose Resource Group, to bear witness to peaceful alternatives to the violence of weapons of mass destruction. Readings, songs, prayers, silence, symbolic actions – and a picnic to end with (bring your own!). People of all faiths, or of none, are most welcome. (For further information on transport from Glasgow, please contact 07709 651335 or 0142 429 3774)



Refugee Photographic Exhibition

Coming to your diocese soon! **Justice and Peace Scotland & SCIAF** are bringing a refugee photographic exhibition to all eight Catholic dioceses in Scotland. The exhibition will be launched at **St Andrew's Cathedral, Glasgow on World Refugee Day - Wednesday 20th June 2018 @ 11am** and we are delighted that Archbishop Tartaglia will be at the launch to bless the exhibition at the start of its travels around Scotland. The exhibition will spend a month in each diocese so make sure you check our diary page on the Justice and Peace Scotland [website](#) to find out when the exhibition will be coming to a venue near you!



Fun Run/walk – Strathclyde Country Park



Justice and Peace Scotland are taking part in the **SCIAF Family Fun Run** this year (although we fully intend to walk!). Please join us for this great day out at **Strathclyde Country Park** in Motherwell on **Saturday 2nd June @ 11am**. We really hope that you will meet up with us at Strathclyde Park and together we can put our faith into action in support of the great work SCIAF do to support poor communities all around the world. *Register here to take part in the*

SCIAF 6K Family Fun Run on Saturday 2nd June 2018. <https://www.sciaf.org.uk/sciaf-6k-fun-run>

Catholic Schools Good for Scotland

As part of the events marking the Centenary of the 1918 Education (Scotland) Act 'Catholic Schools Good for Scotland' celebrates the history and ongoing contribution of faith schools to our country. Produced by Sancta Familia Media for SCES.



The film can be viewed here : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zs-QqGmOyxY>

Coming soon – Sharing Our Common Home – Campaign video.



We have been travelling around capturing the Scottish response to the call from Pope Francis to Welcome, Protect, Promote and Integrate refugees and migrants. To ensure that you don't miss this new Justice and Peace Scotland video subscribe to our channel on [YouTube](#)

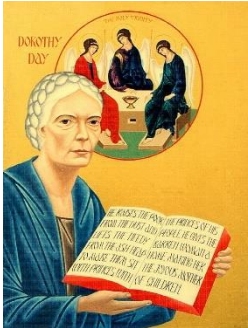
One Big Picnic – George Square – Glasgow

On **Sunday 13th May 2018 from 12noon – 3pm** come along and join 'One Big Picnic'. One Big Picnic 2017 was a great success, around 2,000 people participated on the day as food initiatives from diverse religions and cultures served delicious free food for all. This year the event promises to be even better! With more food, more varied entertainment for children and adults and, hopefully, just a wee bit of May sunshine!!



The Interfaith Food Justice Network want to bring together the general public in all its diversity and this means reaching out to all communities including people who are facing food poverty - to share quality food, fun and a blether and promote the UNITY and DIGNITY of all people!

Edinburgh Catholic Worker



A small group of people have begun meeting together in Edinburgh to seek ways of setting up a Catholic Worker house in (or near) the city. The Catholic Worker is a movement of communities living and working together in the light of the Gospel, committed to the promotion of Catholic social teaching, peace-making, hospitality, and the corporal works of mercy. It began in the USA in the 1930s under the inspiration of Dorothy Day. For an introduction to the origins of the movement see: <http://www.ppu.org.uk/people/day.html> For a more detailed picture of the Catholic Worker movement, its history and aims, its work in various countries today, you might spend some time looking around <http://www.catholicworker.org/>.

The Edinburgh group is now meeting occasionally, discussing ways of taking the idea forward. Can we find a house to occupy? What kind of work shall we do? How can we communicate these ideas?

If you would like to take part in these discussions, or simply to be kept informed of our progress, please send your email address to Gilbert Márkus (gilbertscm@aol.com).

#WeeklyCST

Followers on Facebook and Twitter will know that every Sunday we release #weeklyCST – a weekly quote from Catholic Social Teaching, themed to match either the Mass scripture, or a significant social justice event in the coming week. A document with all the CST quotes for 2018 is available [here](#). Please share widely and encourage people to include the quotes in in parish newsletters / bulletins. They are also great for schools (thought for the day), prayer/ study groups, or for private reflection and prayer.



Music for Worship

A selection of music for praise, thanksgiving, and comfort inspired by faith.

Robert Kochis – Hail Queen of Heaven

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B4H_MoCDqdQ

A special request we received for the month of May, and following Rosary on the Coast.

Kutless – All The Words

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSjZID9Xh6U>

Kutless are an US based worship band from Portland, Oregon. 'All the Words' is from their album 'Sea of Faces', and was featured in an episode of the sitcom Scrubs. This episode was some of the earliest content to be available through iTunes, bringing a new audience to the group and was praised for the inclusion of a worship song in a mainstream comedy show.



John Michael Talbot – The Lord hears the cry of the poor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QI9h7B8L71U>

Beautiful setting of Psalm 34. John Michael Talbot is a US Catholic singer/songwriter and founder of the neo-monastic community The Brothers and Sisters of Charity.

Food for thought

Each edition we will try to bring something thought provoking, and perhaps challenging for you to reflect on. First from Sir Harry Burns.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yEh3JG74C6s>

Speaking at TEDx Glasgow Sir Harry explores how can meaning and purpose contribute to one's wellbeing? The concept of salutogenesis and the impact it has on the most disadvantaged members of our community. As the former Chief Medical Officer (CMO) for Scotland, the Scottish Government's Principal Medical Adviser and Head of the Scottish Medical Civil Service, Sir Harry is dedicated to improving people's health and social wellbeing.

Our second piece is from Democract Now!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSXQ-t8JvSQ>

Fr. Dan Berrigan S.J was a priest, poet and peacemaker. Beginning with the Catonsville Nine in the burning of draft papers to oppose the Vietnam War, founding the Ploughshares Movement, to his ministry in the 90s with people living with HIV Dan Berrigan led a life of witness to the nonviolence of the Gospel, and transformed attitudes within both the Church and wider society. Following his death 2 years ago (30 April 2016) 'One of the Great Revolutionaries' meets with many of Dan's friends as they processed through New York to his funeral, reflecting on his life and ministry.

Our third piece is from BBC Panorama

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b09sz2rv/panorama-evicted-for-no-reason>

Richard Bilton sheds light on the difficulties faced by many private tenants in the UK, who have no long-term right to stay in their homes, and can be ordered to leave with little by the way of notice or explanation. Courts ordered more than 24,000 'No-fault' evictions last year and Richard meets some of the people whose lives have been plunged into chaos by their landlords. He also talks to landlords. Britain depends on the private sector, and 'no fault evictions' are a lifeline for Britain's millions of landlords.

Don't hesitate to be in touch with the Justice and Peace Scotland office on 0141 333 0238 and please consider printing out a copy of our newsletter and leaving it at the back of your church, or sharing it with a friend in print, or by email.

www.justiceandpeacescotland.org.uk

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